



WEBBER GRILLED BY DEFENCE 3 HOURS, BUT BACKS ROSE ON PLOT

Informer Laughs at "Becker's Innocence" When Counsel Hints Killing Was Result of a Gamblers' Feud.

JACOB REICH TO BE STAR WITNESS

Expected to Show Ex-Policeman Had Been "Framed"—Vallon Also Sticks to Murder Story—Court Ignores Lawyers' Tilt Over Testimony.

"Bridge" Webber, the second of the so-called "informers" in the Rosenthal murder case, carried the colors of the prosecution at the trial of Charles Becker yesterday without materially lowering them to the defence.

Webber was under a severe cross-examination by Martin T. Manton, Becker's chief counsel, for three hours.

While apparently unshaken on the vital points of his testimony, the "striking similarity" of his narrative, in incident and language, to that of Rose was continually emphasized by counsel for the defence.

A mass of "negative" evidence, in the form of affidavits of alleged conversations and statements by the state's three informers, Rose, Webber and Vallon, purporting to show that Becker had been "framed" by the gamblers and was innocent of any part in the murder, was introduced by the defence on the cross-examination of Webber.

As Rose had done the day before, Webber categorically denied all such statements credited to him. It is evident that the defence will try to play a trump card with this evidence when the makers of the affidavits are called as their witnesses.

The principal affidavit in this respect is made by "Jack Sullivan" (Jacob Reich), once known as "King of the Newsboys," who was arrested and allied with the informers for the murder. It looked as if the defence was setting the cross for Sullivan on which they expect him to crucify the three principal witnesses for the people.

DURVEA MILLION LEFT TO CHILDREN

Son Who Killed Father to Get Third—Will To Be Filed Soon.

The will of General Hiram Durvea, the starch man, who was shot and killed on May 5 by his son, Chester, will be filed early next week, and by it the estate of about \$1,000,000 will be divided equally among the three children, Chester, Harry H. and Mrs. Henry O. Anderson.

Chester Durvea was indicted yesterday by the Brooklyn grand jury. District Attorney Cropsy moved for a commission to examine Durvea, who is under observation in Bellevue Hospital. It was appointed.

If Durvea is found insane—an event unquestioned by the physicians who have seen him—his share in the estate will be tied up. The Supreme Court will be asked to appoint a committee to take care of the property until the death or recovery of the parricide.

Should Chester die in an asylum, his part of the estate would naturally go to his brother, Harry, who is a broker at 20 Broad st., and his sister, Mrs. Anderson.

If Mrs. Anderson arrives here tomorrow on La Provence from Havre, the will probably will be filed Monday. When R. B. Honeyman, who has been counsel for the family for many years, was told the estate had been estimated at \$1,000,000, he replied:

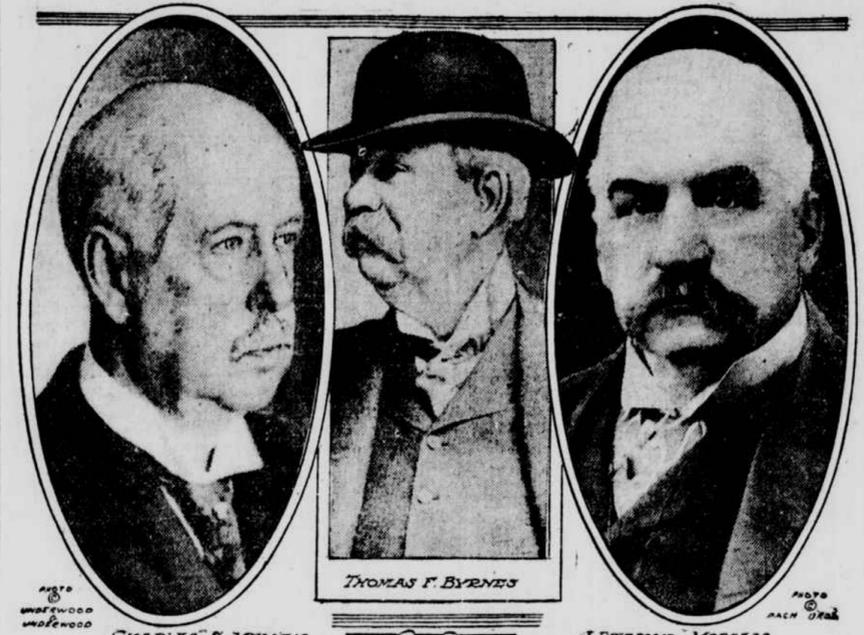
"That's a very safe guess." There was considerable speculation yesterday over the part that Mrs. Chester B. Durvea may play in the proceedings. She obtained a separation from Durvea in 1904, and her husband was ordered to pay her \$80 a week alimony for herself and \$15 for their boy. In 1906 he appeared in the Supreme Court with a motion to have the alimony reduced, testifying before a referee that he was not in a position to pay so much.

Mrs. Durvea and her son are living in Paris now, and it may be that she will ask, after the will is probated, to have the amounts increased. The committee of Chester's estate, to be appointed by the court, will probably be composed of his brother and his sister, and they may see fit to provide for Mrs. Durvea. It is possible that this money might be drawn from the parricide's share, which could also be tapped for expenses of a possible fight to gain release from Matteawan, whether he probably will be sent.

Mr. Honeyman represented Durvea yesterday when application was made to Judge Fawcett, in the county court, today from New York, tomorrow from Albany, see steamboat page for leaving time.—Adv.

MELLEN BLAMES MORGAN, FOR NEW HAVEN LOOTING; REVEALS FRANCHISE FUND

Former President of Road, Debonair and Defiant, Says Former Police Inspector Byrnes, of New York, Was Intermediary in Handling \$1,200,000 Deal—"No Feathers on My Claws," He Tells Interstate Commerce Commission.



[From The Tribune Bureau.] Washington, May 14.—With the undisguised purpose of placing the blame for all the sins of omission and commission of the New Haven Railroad, of which he was once president, upon a dead man—J. Pierpont Morgan—Charles S. Mellen began the unfolding of a tale of financial murk and corruption before Interstate Commerce Commissioner McChord today—a tale replete with startling disclosures.

The Charles S. Mellen on the witness stand was a different man from the haggard, worn and whining president of the New Haven Railroad who appeared at the investigation of his company in Boston a year ago. He was under oath today. At the other hearing he was allowed to make an unsworn statement.

Mr. Mellen looked the picture of health. His answers came quickly and defiantly, and he iterated and reiterated that he proposed to tell everything he knew. He was chipper as a lark. Throughout his testimony he indulged in witticisms and seemed to enjoy the laughs they produced. In some instances he was not choice in his language.

Here was a man who, forty odd years ago, had worked as a clerk for the Northern Railroad of New Hampshire for \$25 a month, and who had climbed to the presidency of one of the biggest railroad systems in the country, at a salary of \$90,000 a year. Throughout his testimony he left little doubt of his purpose to indict Mr. Morgan as the instigator of the financial transactions which have wrecked the New Haven road. He said Mr. Morgan was the person he always regarded as responsible for his connection with the New Haven as its president. He himself, he said, had no negotiations except with Mr. Morgan, and the latter had brought about his election by the directors.

Morgan Made Him President. "I did not even know what my salary was to be," he exclaimed. "Mr. Morgan told me he was going to make me president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company. Naturally I was gratified, and I thanked him. I thought it was the reward of good service."

And when the hearing was over Mellen, defiant as ever, exclaimed, with a snap of his jaw so that its meaning could not be misunderstood, "When I have finished I think they will find out that there are not many feathers sticking to my claws."

Ex-Governor Folk, chief counsel for the commission, who examined Mr. Mellen, overlooked many good points and in some instances did not follow leads which would have been productive of testimony of sensational character. Mr. Folk spent much time digging into the \$1,200,000 "slush fund," but he failed to ask Mr. Mellen whether the things he did had the approval of his board of directors, where the \$1,200,000 of stock which were turned over to him came from, or who "framed up" the transaction.

Mr. Mellen's testimony was dramatic. He did not content himself with bringing in one dead man. He brought in two. He gave the name of former Police Inspector Thomas F. Byrnes, of New York, as the distributor of a \$1,200,000 "slush fund" with which the New Haven railroad expected to purchase enough influence to modify to its satisfaction the franchise held by the New York, Westchester & Boston Railway. There were thirteen things which the New Haven wanted in this connection, and although they were not read to-day it is known that they included favorable decisions from the courts.

A Million Dollar Deal. Mr. Mellen said that 8,000 shares of the New Haven railroad had been placed at his disposal to exchange for 24,000 shares of the New York, Westchester & Boston. The New Haven shares were valued at \$1,200,000, according to the testimony.

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ARMS FOR REBELS AND SPOILS EXPORTS HANG ON BLOCKADE

European Diplomats Anxious About United States Policy, Pending Action of Huerta's Gunboats at Tampico.

CITY'S FALL STIRS RECOGNITION TALK

Mexican Peace Envoys Reach Key West—Sure To Be on Time for Opening of Conference in Canada Monday—American Delegates Start To-morrow.

Several European governments have asked the United States whether it purposes to allow the Constitutionalists to import arms and ammunition through Tampico, and what the administration will do if the rebels try to sell abroad the cotton and other commodities they have confiscated. Secretary Bryan has replied that he did not know, intimating that the problems would be solved when arms reach Mexico or efforts to sell cotton are made.

Both questions are held to be dependent on the action of Huerta's gunboats, the Bravo and the Zaragosa, which are still at Tampico and may blockade the port, preventing both importation of arms and exportation of cotton.

Huerta's delegates to the mediation conference reached Key West last night on their way to Niagara Falls. The American delegates plan to leave Washington for Niagara Falls to-morrow.

Germany's Foreign Minister, in an address to Parliament, declared the government would await the return of peace before moving for reparation for German losses in Mexico.

40 SNIPERS SHOT WITH ONE VOLLEY

Story of Summary Executions Brought by 62 Wounded on Solace.

Tales of the tragic two days when sailors and marines dodged through the streets of Vera Cruz targets for the bullets of hidden snipers were told yesterday by the sixty-two wounded who arrived at the navy yard on the hospital ship Solace and were taken to the naval hospital.

There boys, they talked of bloodshed as would veterans of many stricken fields. Those maimed for life exulted in the belief that they had killed a Mexican in return; those who are well enough to hobble about chafed at the delay and fretted to get back where there might be still more action.

In their story of the taking of Vera Cruz they told of soft-nosed bullets that mangled horribly, of shots that seemed to come from nowhere, of quick reprisals. They were the stories of men, not of battalions. Some recounted sternly how forty snipers, starting firing on the Red Cross attendants who tried to minister to the wounded, after a trial of twenty minutes were executed with one volley against a stone wall.

One youngster, George P. Kinsman, of the Vermont, lay on his cot yesterday and laughed horribly when he told of picking a sniper out and sharing him with a mate who also had marked him for death. The youth, who came from Boston, had to have his right leg amputated. Besides him lies his comrade, Robert Emmet Lee, who will not be eighteen for three days and who has been in the navy a year.

"They got my leg," said Kinsman, "but I've got one satisfaction that I'll carry the rest of my life. We had lain in the dirty boatyard all morning after rushing the boathouse and clearing it out. A shot came from the boathouse and we knew the 'Spigots' gang was back again, sniping. We had started to rush the boathouse, when I saw one of them crawling along with his rifle. Lee saw him, too, and we agreed to kill him together."

"Each of us drew a bead on him, and we kept him covered while he jumped and skipped along, thinking he was safe to do some more sniping. He was heading for a stone house, when I said to Lee:

"We'll let the rat think he's safe. We'll let him get as far as the house, and just when he thinks the danger is over we'll give it to him."

"And that's the way we did. The Mexican was just getting into the house, when we both let him have it and killed him instantly."

Hit by Dum-Dum Bullet. "A minute afterward we started another rush on the boathouse and I got a shot in the leg at the ankle. Lee got it in the calf of the leg, and we lay while the rest of the battalion made a sieve out of the boathouse. Use those bullets are mean to use on a man; they don't give you a chance once they spread."

August Ebel, of the Utah, who was shot three times through the shoulders by firing from above, and his partner, H. E. Holinger, were with Rufus Percy when he fell.

"We were advancing on the academy," said Ebel, "when I got a bullet in the shoulder that knocked me down. I was figuring that I had to get out of danger and was crawling along when a Red Cross man came up to me. While he was trying to get me on a stretcher I was shot twice more by some one who had me marked and wanted to finish me. The

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[From The Tribune Bureau.] Washington, May 14.—The Constitutionalists victory at Tampico has produced a diplomatic problem which seems certain to perplex the administration, and for which there is, apparently, no solution in sight. Several diplomatic representatives of European countries have asked Secretary Bryan if it is the purpose of the United States to permit the unrestricted importation of arms and ammunition by the Carranzistas, and what course this government would pursue regarding the expected attempt of Villa and Carranza to sell the cotton and other commodities of which they have despoiled foreigners at Torreon and elsewhere—foreigners who are the nationals of the countries represented by the diplomats making the inquiry.

To these questions Mr. Bryan has replied uniformly that he did not know what course the United States would pursue, intimating that it would be time enough to consider the problem when importations of arms arrived at Tampico or concrete efforts to sell the cotton and other spoils were made, answers that were far from satisfactory to those instructed by their governments to ascertain the purposes of the United States.

Merely Successful Bandits. The radical divergence of view as to the character of the Constitutionalists leaders, Villa and Carranza, between several of the governments whose nationals have been despoiled and the opinion of these men entertained by Secretary Ryan serves somewhat to complicate the situation. Rightly or wrongly, most of these European governments regard Carranza and Villa as merely successful bandits, wholly destitute of respect for the rules of civilized warfare or the principles of international law, and they feel, therefore, that Constitutionalists successes merely increase the menace to the lives and property of their nationals in Mexico.

It is pointed out at the Department of State that, technically, speaking, President Wilson has never proclaimed the embargo on arms and ammunition consigned to the Constitutionalists from the United States; that what he has done is merely to authorize the military authorities to "detain" such shipments at the border, but not to confiscate them, as would be done were an actual embargo proclaimed.

That the administration will be loath to take any steps to check the supply of arms and ammunition abroad, and of which the Constitutionalists are sorely in need, is obvious. There is reason to believe, however, that Secretary Garrison, inspired now as before by the conviction that such arms and ammunition inevitably will be used against American troops ultimately, will exert such influence as he possesses to induce the President to prevent their importation.

European Protests Sure. The question of permitting the Carranzistas to market the spoils they have seized or exacted in the form of ransom from the nationals of European countries is a purely diplomatic matter with which Secretary Garrison is not likely to interfere unless his advice is asked. That any attempt to market these "stolen" goods will be met with emphatic protests from European nations seems assured.

There is one phase of the situation which may relieve the administration of dealing with the embarrassing problems, and that is the possibility that the Mexican gunboats maintained by Huerta may be able to establish an effective blockade of Tampico. The Carranzistas have no means of combating Huerta's sea forces and, insignificant as they may be from the point of view of nations having real navies, they may prove invaluable to Huerta at Tampico.

If Huerta does not succeed in estab-

WOMAN GOES UP IN AIR

Teacher Soars 2,000 Feet with Daring Aviator.

Ralph M. Brown, who was suspended for three months by the Aero Club of America for flying over New York City, took Miss Ellen Wrightman, a high school teacher, of Dobbs Ferry, for a spin in his flying boat yesterday.

Miss Wrightman was a few minutes late, and kept the spectators in suspense. When she appeared one of her pupils presented her with a big bunch of violets.

Brown rose 2,000 feet above the river and flew past Hastings, and, turning, went up the river to Tarrytown. He volplaned to the surface of the river opposite Dobbs Ferry just as a schooner lumbered between him and his landing place. Heading straight for the vessel at railroad speed, Brown bounced over her topsails, descended to the water again and glided to the beach. Miss Wrightman was delighted with the trip.

TWO ROCKAWAY BOYS LOST

Wanted "to Go West," but Parents Fear Drowning.

Two small boys of Rockaway Park were missing since Monday. Their parents do not know whether they have run away or have been drowned. One of the lads is Clarence Colton, son of John Colton, a contractor. The other is Royal Rutt, son of Mrs. Helen Rutt. Both live on Washington av.

Royal, who is thirteen years old, started for school Monday morning with his brother Harry. When Harry returned alone at noon he said that on the way to school he and his brother met Clarence Colton and accepted his suggestion to go to the railroad depot at Seaside.

SULPHUR CLEANSSES "HELL" IN FORTRESS

San Juan Ulua's Dungeons Now Fresh with Pungent Odor of Carbolic.

Vera Cruz, May 14.—Captain Beech of the Vesta and Lieutenant Cusachs, his interpreter, are going to examine more of the San Juan Ulua prisoners to-morrow and find out if there are not others who deserve to be released. It was supposed that all innocent captives had been freed when the prison was first taken over by the Americans, but yesterday's more thorough hearing, with the aid of a Mexican lieutenant, who brought many of the prisoners up from Tabasco, revealed twenty-eight more, among whom, as told in these dispatches, was discovered the nephew of Pino Suarez, Madero's ill-fated Vice-President.

These examinations are more like pages from "Westward Ho" or some old tale of the Spanish Main than anything one would expect to happen in days of aerograms and aeroplanes. The mouldering old white walls of the prison, the most with the warm Gulf water washing in from the open sea just as it has for three hundred years, the line of prisoners, whose patient, unemotional faces mask stories whose beginnings were in little tropical cities and plantations years ago, hundreds of miles away from the scene, and the prisoners' sudden shift from anonymous slavery to liberty—all recalls the days when merchant ships had to fight their way upon the high seas and being lost for years in some foreign dungeon was part of the splendid gamble of running away to be a sailor.

That part of San Juan known as "Hell" was shut up and fumigated with sulphur to-day, and the dark, evil smelling corridors now are pungent with the clean odor of carbolic. Some of the released prisoners who have no means of getting back home or who fear to be caught for the army again will remain about the prison for the present, and others are to be helped to get work until they can communicate with their families.

Crocker Land Explorers Well.

Copenhagen, May 14.—Knud Rasmussen, the Danish explorer, has brought back word here from Donald B. MacMillan, leader of the Crocker Land expedition, that all the members were well on March 27. MacMillan was then at Cape York.

M'REYNOLDS NOT TO QUIT

Denies Report That New Haven Case May Cause Action.

Washington, May 14.—Reports that Attorney General McReynolds will soon retire as a result of the friction between himself and former Governor Folk, solicitor for the Interstate Commerce Commission, about the New Haven hearing were denied to-day in official quarters.

One report was that Mr. McReynolds would resign from the Cabinet because his appeal to the President to prevent Mr. Folk from "interfering" in the New Haven case was in vain. It was pointed out, however, that the President had said several months ago that under no circumstances would he meddle with the affairs of the Interstate Commerce Commission. He may have had Mr. McReynolds's view of the matter in the dispute with Mr. Folk.

NO FEAST FOR COLONEL

Roosevelt Family Opposed to Public Welcome.

There is to be no public reception for Colonel Roosevelt on his return from South America next week. This, it is stated, is due to the wishes of his family, whose plan is to take him off the boat in the harbor and go to Oyster Bay in a tug or yacht.

George W. Perkins, chairman of the executive committee of the Progressive National Committee, has received suggestions from many parts of the country that a big reception or dinner be prepared to welcome the colonel.

ATTACK B. & O. WATCHMAN

Five Men Overcome Him When He Interferes with Fusillade.

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Five men entered the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad yards, at 26th st. and Thirteenth av., shortly after midnight, and began firing revolvers. When Frederick Freeman, the watchman, attempted to interfere, they snatched his revolver from him and took away his checking clock.

Frank Upton, electrician, of 215 Prospect Park West, Brooklyn, who was working in the yards, went to Freeman's assistance, and was beaten unconscious with a blow on the head.

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This Morning's News.

THE MEXICAN SITUATION.
Europe Anxious Over Tampico.
Wounded Tell of Executions.
Huerta Gathers Kinmen.
Bowing Tampico to Death.
Mexican Claims Awaiting Peace.
Bands Sounded for Vera Cruz Dead.
Race Hurried to Embark Division.
LOCAL.
Webber and Vallon Back Rose.
Democrats Hit Toga Race.
Cobb Makes Plan with Bookmen.
Late Tap Day Reformer Untapped.
Bane Fountain for 1916.
Leak Free Zone as Trade Aid.
Nail Trade Plot Denied by Lehigh.
Military Charges Indict Fear.
Bank White Now a Baker.
Tears Up Love Letters in Court.
Sulzer Love Suit Answered.
GENERAL.
Mellen Lays N. H. Looting to Morgan.
Vernone Faces Flight of His Life.
Immigrant Insurgency in House.
Admits Militia Fired on Miners.
East Federal Troops Continued.
Kantini Confession Admitted.
FOREIGN.
Canadian R. R. Finance Criticized.
MISCELLANEOUS.
Foman's Varied Interests.
Mifflin.
Bridget.
Feather.
Shipping.
Ports.
Financial and Markets.
Leal Estate.
Army and Navy.
Burt Calendars, Police.